



## News Release

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### **AT&T Offers Georgians a New Choice for Local Phone Service**

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ATLANTA – AT&T Consumer today announced it has begun offering consumers in Georgia several local calling plans with the ability to add attractively priced long distance plans and receive a single monthly bill.

AT&T Consumer is providing AT&T Local Service to Georgia residents by leasing parts -- unbundled network elements -- provided by BellSouth. AT&T Consumer is fighting hard for improvements in BellSouth's operations support systems and its prices for unbundled network elements, and, ultimately, intends to use more of its own facilities, where feasible, to serve many customers.

"We look forward to offering Georgia residents the convenience of dealing with one company for their local and long distance calls along with competitive pricing and high-quality customer service," said Phil Tonge, president of local markets, AT&T Consumer.

"I commend AT&T for its investment in the Georgia local services market. This new residential local service offer will go a long way toward helping us deliver on the commission's long-standing promise to bring Georgia consumers choice for local phone service," said Commissioner David Burgess, Georgia Public Service Commission. "I am committed to continuing to open the local service market by supporting alternate providers with regulatory measures that make it feasible for them to do business in this state."

In metro-Atlanta, AT&T already provides local service to business customers and, via cable telephony, to residential subscribers of AT&T Broadband cable services. Since the AT&T Local Service residential offer announced today is provided over traditional phone lines, unless customers are signing up for local service for the first time, they won't have to have a technician come to their home to get this local service offer. Additionally, AT&T Local Service will be available in most areas where BellSouth has service.

With today's announcement, AT&T Consumer offers Georgia residents a variety of local and long distance calling plans to best suit their individual needs. For example, AT&T's Call Plan 3 Pack, includes the following for \$29.95 per month:

- Unlimited local calls.
- A choice of three of the following features -- Caller ID with Name with Anonymous Call Rejection, Call Waiting, Call Return, Call Forwarding Variable or Three Way Calling.
- A single, simple-to-read bill for local and long distance calls.
- One phone number to call for all customer service needs.

AT&T Local Service customers also can choose from an array of attractively priced subscription-based AT&T long distance offers, including the recently announced AT&T Unlimited, an offer only AT&T can provide. AT&T Unlimited subscribers can make unlimited direct-dialed long distance calls from home and talk as much as they want to other AT&T residential long distance subscribers in the U.S. for only \$19.95 a month.

"If Georgia callers combine AT&T Unlimited with its local counterpart, Call Plan 3 Pack, they can enjoy the freedom that only AT&T provides – virtually unlimited long distance and unlimited local calling for one monthly fee," said Tonge.

BellSouth customers who select AT&T Consumer for their local residential service will be able to keep their existing phone number and, if they choose the offer now, AT&T will pay all switching charges.

To sign up for AT&T residential local service in Georgia, consumers can call toll free 1 888 297 2575.

**About AT&T:** AT&T ([www.att.com](http://www.att.com)) is among the world's premier voice, video and data communications companies, serving consumers, businesses and government. Backed by the research and development capabilities of AT&T Labs, the company runs the world's largest, most sophisticated communications network. The company is a leading supplier of data and Internet services for businesses and offers outsourcing, consulting and networking-integration to large businesses.

**Editor's note: Telebriefing --** AT&T will hold a news briefing today Tuesday, March 5, at 11 a.m. EST. Phil Tonge, president of local markets, AT&T Consumer, and Sylvia Anderson, vice president, AT&T Law and Government Affairs, and general attorney, Southern States, will host the briefing and will take questions following prepared remarks. To participate in the briefing, call 1 800 230 1766 and ask for the AT&T Georgia Local Services Media Briefing. The

briefing will be available on a 48-hour replay beginning today at 2:30 p.m. EST by calling 1800 475 6701, access code 627 773. For assistance call 1 800 932 1100.

The foregoing are "forward-looking statements" which are based on management's beliefs as well as on a number of assumptions concerning future events made by and information currently available to management. Readers are cautioned not to put undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which are not a guarantee of performance and are subject to a number of uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside AT&T's control, that could cause actual results to differ materially from such statements. For a more detailed description of the factors that could cause such a difference, please see AT&T's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. AT&T disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. This information is presented solely to provide additional information to further understand the results of AT&T.

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